

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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TAGS: ECE, SOCI, UR, IS

SUBJECT: ECE - 37TH SESSION OF HOUSING, BUILDING AND

PLANNING COMMITTEE, SEPTEMBER 6-10, 1976: ISRAELI

PARTICIPATION IN STUDY TOUR IN USSR

1. MISSION ADVISED THAT USSR HAS INFORMED ECE SECRETARIAT THAT THERE WOULD BE "CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES" WITH PARTICIPATION IN HBP COMMITTEE STUDY TOUR IN USSR SEPTEMBER 11 -16 BY NON-MEMBERS OF ECE AND THAT PARTICIPATION SHOULD THEREFORE BE LIMITED TO MEMBERS ONLY. PURPOSE OF SOVIET ACTION IS TO EXCLUDE PLANNED PARTICIPATION BY EXPERT FROM ISRAELI HOUSING MINISTRY. PLANNED PARTICIPATION BY GHANA WOULD ALSO BE AFFECTED. IRAQ HAD PLANNED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE BUT RECENTLY ADVISED ECE OF WITHDRAWAL

2. ECE SECRETARIAT BELIEVES THAT RIGHT OF ISRAELIS TO PARTICIPATE IN STUDY TOUR IS CLEAR. IT THEREFORE INTENDS TO REFER MATTER TO COMMITTEE FOR DECISION RE PARTICIPATION OR CANCELLATION. IN THIS CONNECTION SECRETARIAT PLANS TO ISSUE ON SEPTEMBER 6 A CONFERENCE ROOM PAPER WHICH WILL READ AS FOLLOWS:

"STUDY TOUR TO THE USSR

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NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT

THE COMMITTEE WILL RECALL THAT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 11 OF THE COMMISSION'S TERMS OF REFERENCE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED ECE PRACTICE, MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE UN FROM OUTSIDE THE ECE REGION TAKE PART IN ECE STUDY TOURS THE SUBJECT OF WHICH IS OF INTEREST TO THEM. IN CONNECTION WITH THE STUDY TOUR TO THE USSR TO TAKE PLACE FOLLOWING THE COMMISSION'S 37TH SESSION, THE SECRETARIAT HAS BEEN INFORMED BY THE USSR AUTHORITIES THAT THEY HAVE CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES WITH THE PARTICIPATION IN THIS STUDY TOUR OF EXPERTS FROM NON-ECE COUNTRIES. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES THE COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO THE QUESTION OF THE STUDY TOUR AND TO THE SCOPE OF PARTICIPATION THEREIN."

3. ARTICLE 11 OF ECE TERMS OF REFERENCE READS AS FOLLOWS: "THE COMMISSION SHALL INVITE ANY MEMBER OF THE UNITED NATIONS NOT A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONSULTATIVE CAPACITY IN ITS CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO THAT NON-MEMBER." CATTO

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